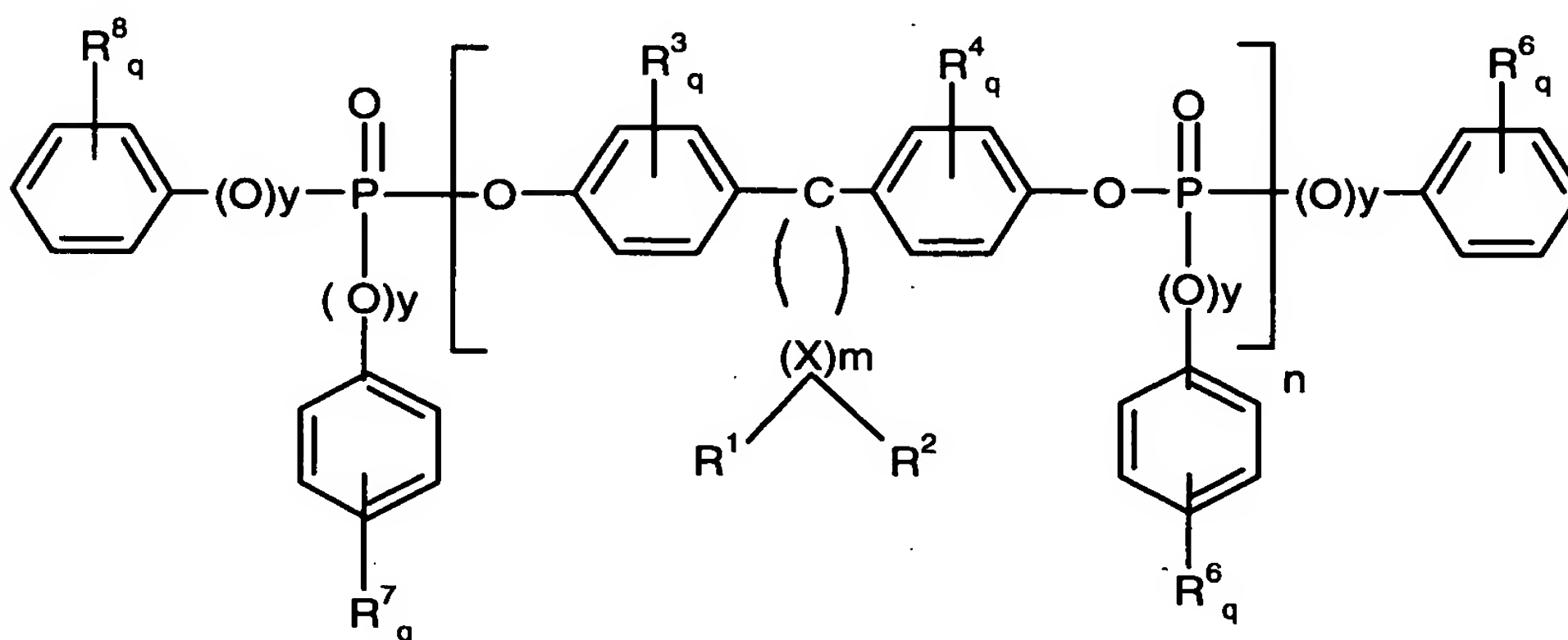


IN THE CLAIMS::

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An oligophosphate~~ A compound of general formula



wherein R¹ and R² independently of each other for each X, denote ~~hydrogen or a C₁₋₂₀-alkyl~~ C₇₋₂₀-alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl or together with the carbon atom to which

they are bonded form

or a cycloalkyl or together with corresponding R¹ or R² on a different carbon atom X, form a cyclic structure

R³ to R⁸, independently of each other, denote a C₁₋₁₀-alkyl or a halogen,

X denotes carbon,

m denotes an integer of 4 to 7,

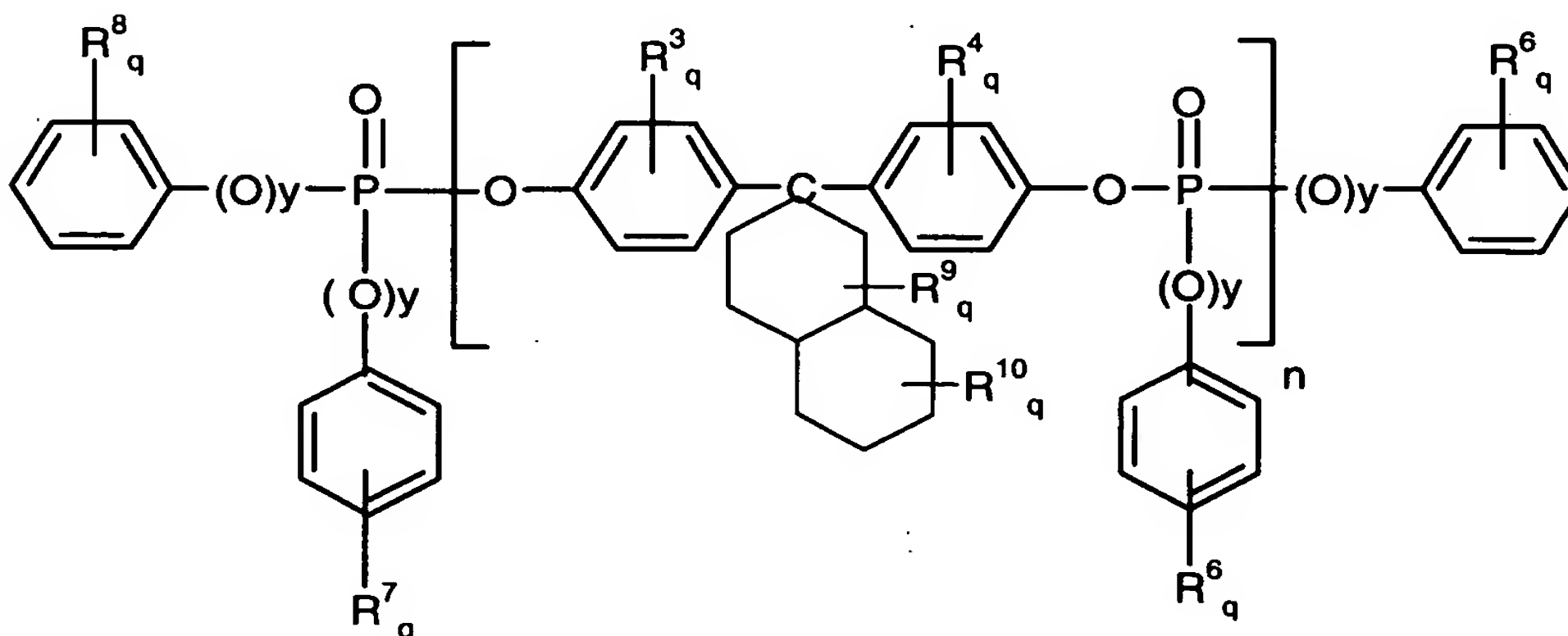
n denotes an integer of 1 to 30,

y is 0 or 1, and

q denotes numbers which are independent of each other, and represent an integer of 0 to 5.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The oligophosphate~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R¹ or R² on a carbon atom X, together with a R^{1'} or R^{2'} on a corresponding carbon atom X', form a cycloalkyl structure.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An oligophosphate~~ The compound according to Claim 1 having the following formula



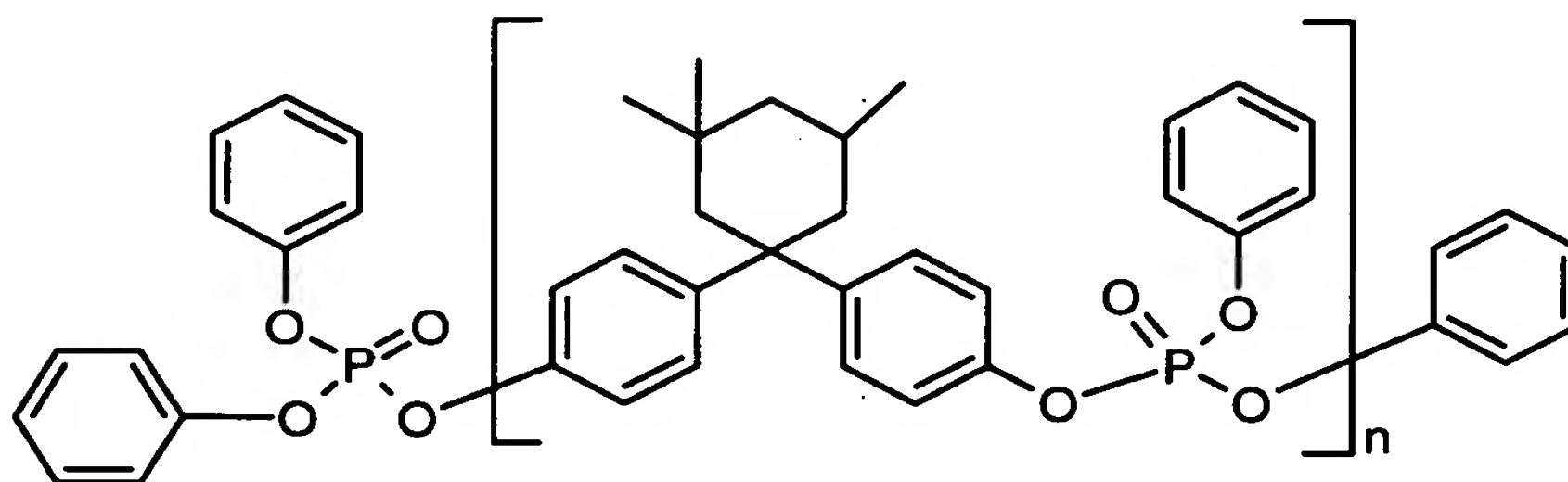
wherein R^9 and R^{10} independently of each other, denote hydrogen C_1 - C_4 -alkyl or a halogen, and q denotes numbers which are independent of each other and represent an ~~integer~~ integer from 0 to 4.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The oligophosphate~~ The compound according to Claim 1 wherein carbon contained in the cyclic structures is substituted by heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-, -N- R^1 - and -P- R^1 -.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The oligophosphate~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein ~~R^1 and R^2 denote hydrogen or a C_1 to C_6 alkyl~~, R^3 to R^8 denote a C_1 to C_6 alkyl, X denotes carbon, $m = 4$ or 5 , n denotes an integer from 1 to 15, q denotes an integer from 0 to 5, and $y = 1$.

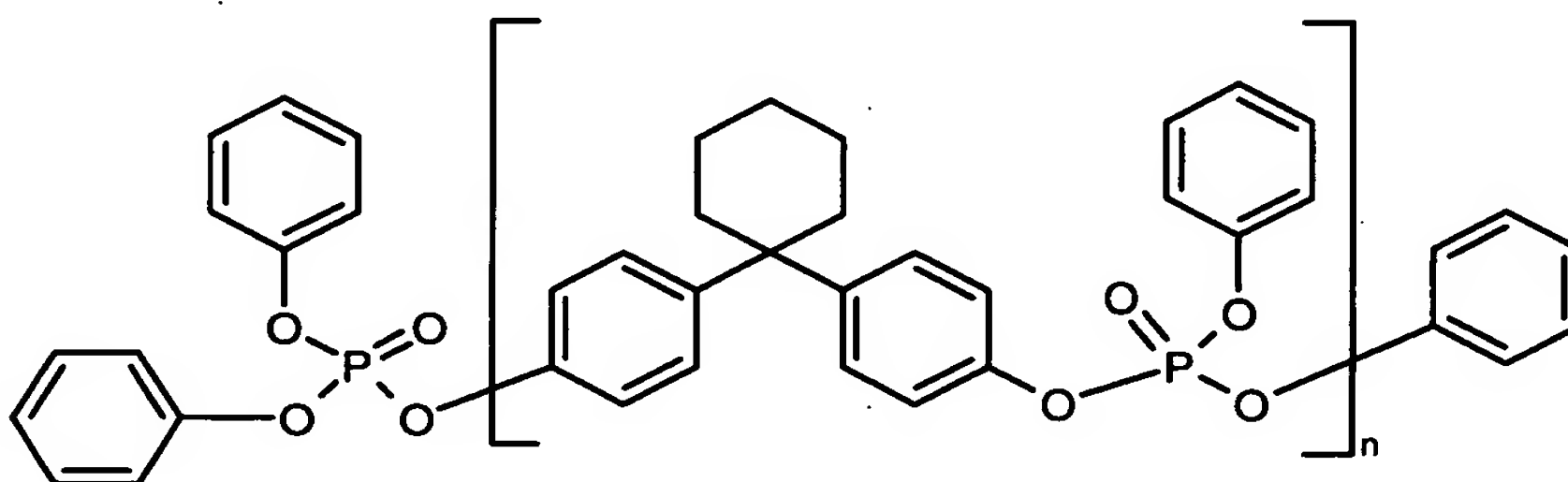
6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The oligophosphate~~ The compound according to Claim 1 conforming to



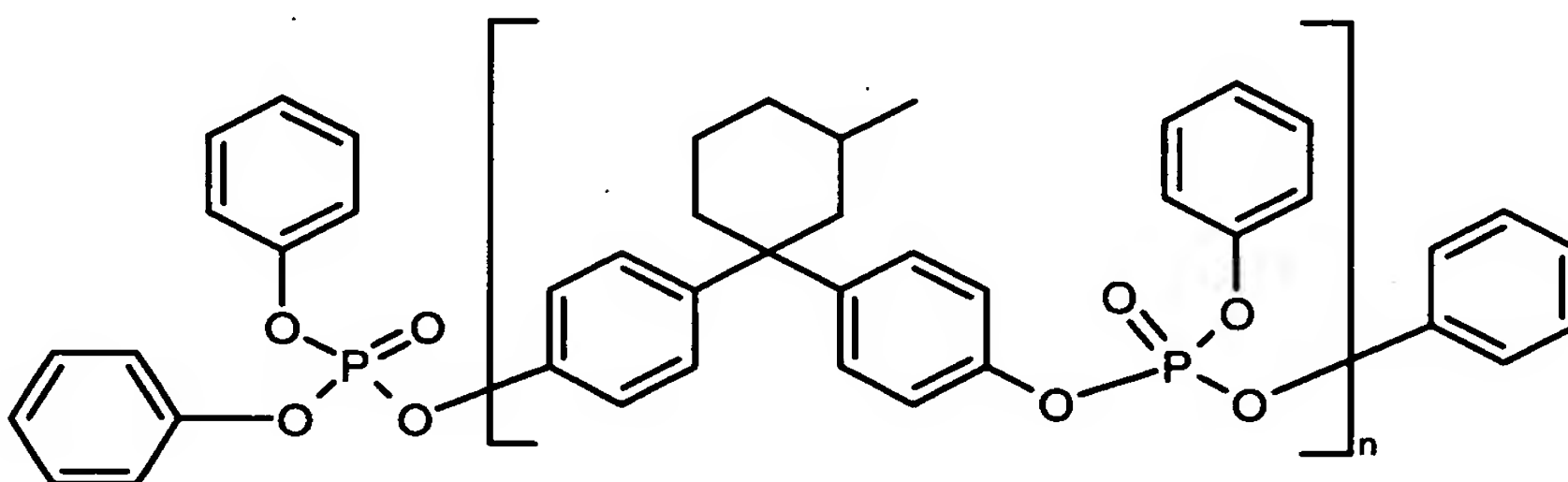
wherein n denotes an integer of 1 to 30.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The oligophosphate~~ The compound according to Claim 1 conforming to



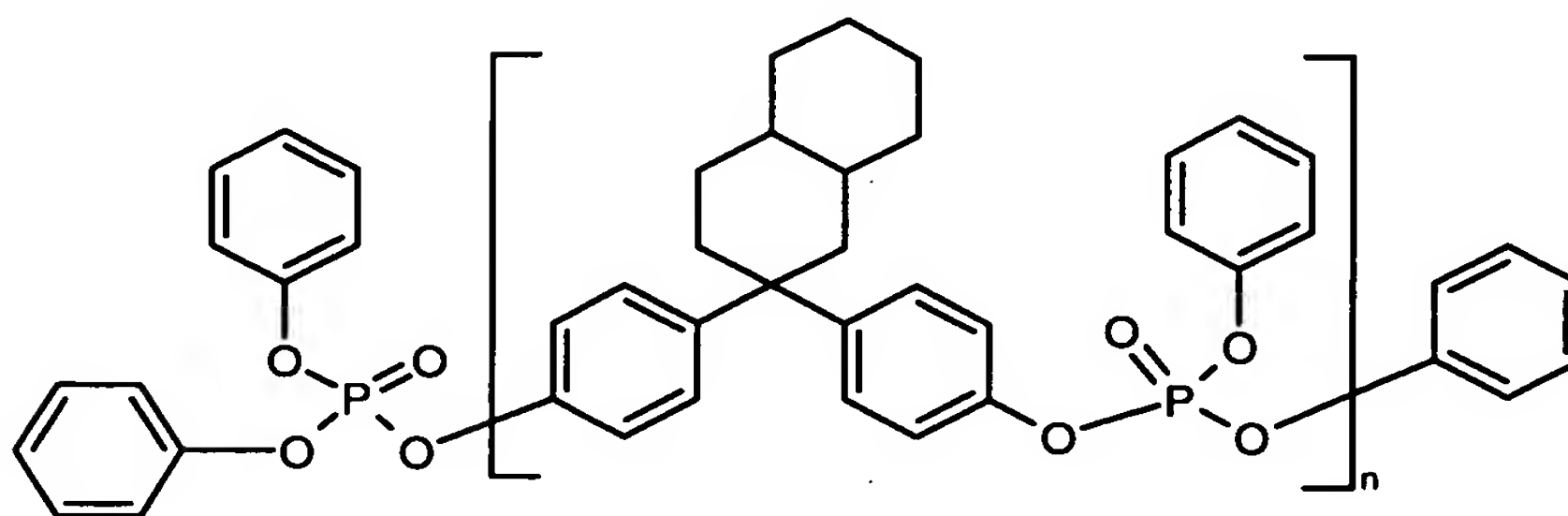
wherein n denotes an integer of 1 to 30.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The oligophosphate~~ The compound according to Claim 1 conforming to



wherein n denotes an integer of 1 to 30.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The oligophosphate~~ The compound according to Claim 1 conforming to



wherein n denotes an integer of 1 to 30.

11. (Original) A thermoplastic composition containing at least one thermoplastic resin and the oligophosphate according to Claim 1.

12. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic composition according to Claim [[10,]] 11 wherein the thermoplastic resin is a member selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyester carbonate, polyphenylene oxide, polyester, polyamide, polyester amide, vinyl (co)polymer and acrylic/butadiene/styrene (ABS) copolymer.

13. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic composition according to Claim [[10,]] 11 comprising a polycarbonate, wherein, with respect to the weight of the composition, said composition contains up to 50 % by weight of a graft polymer comprising 5 to 95 % by weight of that polymer of at least one vinyl monomer grafted on 95 to 5 % by weight of at least one rubber as graft base having a glass transition temperature lower than about 10°C.

14. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic composition according to Claim [[12,]] 13 wherein the graft base is a member selected from the group consisting of diene-, EP(D)M-, acrylate- and silicone rubber.

15. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic composition according to Claim [[12,]] 13 wherein graft ~~rubber~~ polymer is an emulsion- or bulk-polymerized ABS or mixtures thereof.

16. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic composition according to Claim [[10]] 11 which further contains a fluorinated polyolefin.

17. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic composition according to Claim [[10]] 11 which further contains a nano-scale inorganic material or talc .

18. (Currently Amended) A molded article comprising the composition of Claim [[10]] 11.